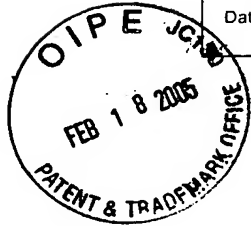


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: February 15, 2005

Signature:

*Michael J. Doherty*  
(Michael J. Doherty)



Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-441 CONT CONT  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Ralph et al.

Application No.: 10/667,034

Confirmation No.: 1511

Filed: September 22, 2003

Art Unit: 3731

For: POROUS INTERVERTEBRAL DISTRACTION  
SPACERS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**NOTIFICATION OF LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Assignee, SpineCore, Inc., hereby notifies the Patent and Trademark Office that it is not entitled to status as a small entity, and that the claim for small entity status filed by the Applicant is hereby withdrawn.

Dated: February 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By *Michael J. Doherty*

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